

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER
IPC 7 G01R33/36

According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC

B. FIELDS SEARCHED

Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)
IPC 7 G01R

Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched

Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practical, search terms used)

EPO-Internal, PAJ, INSPEC, COMPENDEX, WPI Data

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category *	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
X	US 2002/109503 A1 (KESTLER JOACHIM ET AL) 15 August 2002 (2002-08-15) paragraphs '0008!-'0015! paragraphs '0019!-'0026!; figures 1-3 ---	1-11
X	US 5 807 253 A (DUMOULIN CHARLES LUCIAN ET AL) 15 September 1998 (1998-09-15) column 3, line 33 -column 5, line 67; figure 2 ---	1-6,9-11
X	PATENT ABSTRACTS OF JAPAN vol. 1996, no. 02, 29 February 1996 (1996-02-29) -& JP 07 265278 A (HITACHI MEDICAL CORP), 17 October 1995 (1995-10-17) abstract --- -/--	1-6,8-11

☒ Further documents are listed in the continuation of box C.

☒ Patent family members are listed in annex.

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- *O* document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means
- *P* document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed

- *T* later document published after the international filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the invention
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- *Y* document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such documents, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art.
- *&* document member of the same patent family

Date of the actual completion of the international search

9 January 2004

Date of mailing of the international search report

19/01/2004

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INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International Application No.
PCT/IB'03/04589

C.(Continuation) DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category *	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
X	<p>US 5 294 886 A (DUERR WILHELM) 15 March 1994 (1994-03-15) column 3, line 14 -column 4, line 56; figures 1-5</p>	<p>1,2,5,6, 8-11</p>

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US 2002109503	A1	15-08-2002	DE	10105984 C1	31-10-2002
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			JP	11230705 A	27-08-1999
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US 5294886	A	15-03-1994	DE	4113120 A1	05-11-1992
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			JP	5180920 A	23-07-1993